

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:

in anticipation of distribution of a data assembly, adding redundant data to the data assembly based on a characteristic of a component targeted for receipt of the data assembly.

5 2. The method of claim 1, wherein adding redundant data to the data assembly comprises duplicating a second data assembly referenced by the data assembly.

3. The method of claim 1, further comprising distributing the data assembly including the redundant data.

10 4. The method of claim 1, wherein adding redundant data comprises adding redundant data based on a technical characteristic of the component.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein adding redundant data comprises adding redundant data based on a technical ability of the component to handle complex data objects.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein adding redundant data to the data assembly comprises adding redundant data to a data object.

15 7. A computer program product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause a processor to perform operations, the operations comprising:

receiving valuation information relating to an appraisal of the appropriateness of a portion of a data assembly for distribution; and

20 modifying the data assembly for distribution based on the received valuation information.

8. The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise:

receiving an indication of invalidity of the portion of the data assembly; and
eliminating the invalid portion of the data assembly for distribution.

9. The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise receiving an indication of a change to the portion of the data assembly, the change relating to an update to a version of a device described by the data assembly.

5 10. The product of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise eliminating, for distribution, the portion of the data assembly that describes a previous version of the device described by the data assembly.

11. The product of claim 9, wherein the operations further comprise automatically identifying the data assembly for distribution upon receipt of the indication of the change to the portion of the data assembly.

10 12. The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise reducing complexity of the data assembly.

13. The product of claim 12, wherein reducing complexity of the data assembly comprises includes eliminating an object from the data assembly.

15 14. The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise eliminating plural references to a single data object.

15. The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise receiving the valuation information as metadata included in the data assembly.

16. The product of claim 7, wherein the operations further comprise receiving the valuation information relating to a context of a target component.

20 17. The product of claim 16, wherein the operations further comprise receiving the valuation information relating to an application performed at the target component.

18. A computer program product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, the computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause a processor to perform operations, the operations comprising:

- 5 receiving historical distribution information for a data assembly, the historical distribution information identifying one or more components that have previously received some version of the data assembly; and
- determining if distribution of at least a portion of a current version of the data assembly to a target component is warranted based on the historical distribution information.

19. The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise:

- 10 receiving historical distribution information identifying a distributed version of the data assembly, the distributed version being previously distributed to the target component; and
- determining if a current version of the data assembly includes changed data for which distribution to the target component is warranted.

15 20. The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise:

- determining if the current version of the data assembly includes data associated with an updated lifecycle characteristic; and
- determining if the update to the lifecycle characteristic makes distribution of the associated data to the target component warranted.

20 21. The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise determining if the current version of the data assembly includes data applicable to a role of the target component.

22. The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise modifying the current version of the data assembly for distribution to the target component.

23. The product of claim 18, wherein the operations further comprise:

identifying a second data assembly related to the data assembly; and
determining if distribution of the second data assembly is warranted based on the
relationship with the data assembly.

5 24. A computer program product, tangibly stored on a computer-readable medium, the
computer program product comprising instructions operable to cause a processor to perform
operations, the operations comprising:

receiving a data assembly identified for distribution;
extracting a characteristic of the content of the data assembly; and
10 determining if distribution of at least a portion of the data assembly to a target
component is warranted based on the characteristic of the content.

25. The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise comparing the
characteristic of the content with a characteristic of the target component.

15 26. The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise searching the content of
the data assembly for a keyword relevant to the target component.

27. The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise parsing language in the
content of the data assembly for language relevant to the target component.

28. The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise comparing the
characteristic of the content with a characteristic of the target component.

20 29. The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise comparing the
characteristic of the content with a role of the target component.

30. The product of claim 24, wherein the operations further comprise modifying the current
version of the data assembly for distribution to the target component.